



## **MYP LANGUAGE POLICY**

*Culture 4: The school implements, communicates and regularly reviews a language policy that helps to foster intercultural understanding through communicating in a variety of ways in more than one language. (0301-04)*

### **Introduction**

St. Frederick High School is committed to teaching and fostering language skills in all students. The purpose of our Language Policy is to outline our philosophy and practice as aligned with the standards of the International Baccalaureate Programme. Our primary language of instruction (English) and our language of acquisition (Spanish) are both taught at all levels of the MYP in grades 7-10.

### **Philosophy and Aims**

St. Frederick High School maintains the following philosophy regarding the use of language:

- All teachers are language teachers, regardless of discipline.
- Language is the primary means of communicating and learning.
- Language acquisition is promoted through instruction, cultural awareness, and interaction with the community.
- Mother-tongue and Heritage languages are an important part of cultural and personal identity and, as such, should be supported.
- The development of a school's language program helps to promote global citizenship.
- Language literacy includes proficiency in listening, reading, speaking, and writing.
- The study of literature helps students to explore a variety of human experiences and helps to build empathy and understanding of the world around them.

### **Requirements**

All students are expected to meet the following learning objectives:

- Successful completion of Language and Literature courses for each of year of the MYP
- Successful completion of Spanish Language Acquisition classes for the length of the program, which includes Spanish I and II. This fulfills both the requirements of the MYP and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE).
- Entrance into upper-level Spanish courses is determined by a combination of a placement test and approval by the Spanish Department.
- These requirements are designed not only to satisfy guidelines set forth by the IB and the LDOE but to foster student growth and achievement.
- Students are required to complete an additional two years of English Language and Literature in grades 11 and 12, including the opportunity to gain college credit.
- Additionally, students may elect to continue pursuing fluency in their second language by completing up to six years of Spanish, including the opportunity to gain college credit.